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## Man Found Guilty of Kidnapping 4-Year-Old Lancaster Girl From Front Yard

A 62-year-old man who kidnapped a 4-year-old girl from her front yard was found guilty today by an Antelope Valley jury, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Jon Hatami said Earl Duane Williams of Los Angeles was found guilty of kidnapping to commit lewd act upon a child and criminal threats.

Williams will face 34 years to life in state prison and lifetime sex offender registration at a sentencing hearing scheduled for Dec. 16 in Department A19 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Antelope Valley Branch.

On Dec. 20, 2014, Williams parked his RV near the victim's house in Lancaster, walked up her driveway, hugged and kissed the victim, and then carried her back down the long driveway approximately 25 feet toward his vehicle as she cried for help, according to court testimony.

Her 13-year-old brother yelled for help, grabbed his sister's arm and the defendant's jacket, forcing the defendant to leave the girl and flee the scene, the prosecutor said.

According to testimony at the trial, after the defendant was arrested he threatened the victim's mother, yelling profanities and racial slurs stating that he would come back and hurt the entire family.

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Lisa Chung presided over the six-day trial. The jury deliberated for approximately four hours before reaching a verdict.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Lancaster Station, investigated case MA064979.

## **About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office**

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.